# Case 2:14-cv-0423 **C-RVIID COMPR SHIFTI** dd 07/14/14 Page 1 of 34

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

purpose of initiating the civil do	ocket sneet. (SEE INSTRUCT	HONS ON NEXT PAG	E OF TH	IIS FORM.)					
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Thomas Spina		х.		DEFENDANTS Refrigerated Serice & and Kenneth C. Philo	Engineerin	g, RobertE. Hepp,	III, Cynthia Fi	tzgerald-	Нерр,
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	of First Listed Plaintiff BucCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	4	County of Residence  NOTE:  Attorneys (If Known) See Attached List	(IN U.S. PI	ed Defendant LAINTIFF CASES OF CONDEMNATION CONDENS OF CONTROLORS OF OF LAND INVOL	ASES, USE THE	LOCATI	ON OF	
H BACIC OF HIDICAL	CTION		TYY C	TITITE NEUTIN OF DOL	NICIDAI	DADTIEC			
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)	111.	CITIZENSHIP OF PRI (For Diversity Cases Only)	NCIPAL	PARTIES (Pla	ce an "X" in One and One Box fo		
U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not	a Party)			rf DEF	Incorporated or Pri	ncipal Place	PTF 4	DEF
2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of	f Parties in Item III)		Citizen of Another State	2 🔲 2	Incorporated and Po of Business In A		□ 5	□5
				Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🔲 3	Foreign Nation		□ 6	□6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box O	nly)							
CONTRACT	TO	RTS	RWS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BAN	KRUPTCY	OTHER:	STATUT	ES
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability	PERSONAL INJ  365 Personal Injur  Product Liabi  367 Health Care/	ry -	☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 ☐ 690 Other	423 Witho	al 28 USC 158 drawal SC 157	☐ 375 False C☐ 400 State Re☐ 410 Antitrus☐ 430 Banks a	eapportion it	
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment ☐ 151 Medicare Act ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander ☐ 330 Federal Employers' Liability ☐ 340 Marine	Pharmaceutics Personal Injur Product Liabii  368 Asbestos Pers Injury Product	y lity sonal		PROPER 820 Copy 830 Paten 840 Trade	t	☐ 450 Comme ☐ 460 Deporta ☐ 470 Rackete	rce tion er Influen Organizat	ced and
(Excludes Veterans)  153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits  160 Stockholders' Suits  190 Other Contract  195 Contract Product Liability  196 Franchise	☐ 345 Marine Product Liability ☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability ☐ 360 Other Personal Injury ☐ 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Liability PERSONAL PROI  370 Other Fraud  371 Truth in Lend  380 Other Persona Property Dam  385 Property Dam Product Liabil	ling al age age	LABOR    710 Fair Labor Standards	☐ 861 HIA ( ☐ 862 Black	Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g)) Title XVI	☐ 490 Cable/S  ■ 850 Securiti Exchan ☐ 890 Other S ☐ 891 Agricul ☐ 893 Environ ☐ 895 Freedon Act ☐ 896 Arbitrat	es/Commo ge tatutory A tural Acts mental Ma n of Inforr	ctions
REAL PROPERTY  210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	REAL PROPERTY CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITION  Land Condemnation Foreclosure Rent Lease & Ejectment Torts to Land  CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights Habeas Corpus: 441 Voting 443 Alien Detained 510 Motions to Value Sentence		e acate	□ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	□ 870 Taxes or De □ 871 IRS—	AL TAX SUITS  (U.S. Plaintiff efendant) -Third Party SC 7609		riew or Ap Decision itionality o	peal of
290 All Other Real Property	☐ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities Employment ☐ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities Other ☐ 448 Education	Other:	Other ion e -	IMMIGRATION  ☐ 462 Naturalization Application ☐ 465 Other Immigration Actions					
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)         □ 1 Original       □ 2 Removed from □ 3 Remanded from Proceeding       □ 4 Reinstated or □ 5 Transferred from □ 6 Multidistrict Another District (specify)									
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	IBrief description of cause:								
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS UNDER RULE 23,		N	DEMAND \$		HECK YES only i	if demanded in	complair No	
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKE	T NUMBER			
DATE 07/14/2014	7	SIGNATURE OF AT	TORNE	Y OF RECORD					

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

## ADDRESSES OF PARTIES AND COUNSEL OF RECORD IN STATE COURT ACTION

Plaintiff
THOMAS SPINA
46 Brookwood Drive
Ivyland, PA 18974

<u>Defendamts</u>
REFRIGERATION, SERVICE AND
ENGINEERING, INC.
75 Industrial Parkway
Pottstown, PA 19464

ROBERT E. HEPP III 2207 Oak Terrace Lansdale, PA 19446

CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP 2207 Oak Terrace Lansdale, PA 19446

KENNETH C. PHILO, II 23 Flintlock Lane Phoenixville, PA 19460 Counsel
Henry I. Pass, Esq. I.D. #21437
Richard G. Tuttle, Esq. I.D. #28685
3 Bala Plaza East, Suite 700A
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
215-660-8001
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Neal A Jacobs, Esq. I.D. #41918 Richard E. Miller, Esq. I.D. #46451 2005 Market Street, Suite 1120 Philadelphia, Pa. 19103 Phone: (215) 569-9701 Attorneys for Defendant, Refrigerated Service & Engineering

Gary M. Samms, Esq. I.D. #58096 One Penn Center, 19th Floor 1617 JFK Blvd. Phone: (215) 665-3000 Attorney for Defendats, Robert E. Hepp, III and Cynthia Fitzgerald-Hepp

Michael D. LiPuma, Esq. I.D.#74790 325 Chestnut Street Suite 1109 Philadelphia, PA 19106 Phone: (215) 922-2126 Attorney for Defendant, Kenneth C. Philo, II

# Case 2:14-cv-04230-RK Document 1-1 Filed 07/14/14 Page 3 of 34

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

# CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Thomas Spina,	: CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff,	
у.	
Refrigeration Service & Engineering, Inc. Robert E. Hepp, III, Cynthia Fitzgerald-Hepp, and Kenneth C. Philo, II	NO.
Defendants.	:
plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Tra filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defen side of this form.) In the event that a defenda designation, that defendant shall, with its first ap	nd Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for ck Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of dants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse ant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said opearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on ement Track Designation Form specifying the track I be assigned.
SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASI	E MANAGEMENT TRACKS:
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.	S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of and Human Services denying plaintiff Socia	f a decision of the Secretary of Health l Security Benefits. ( )
(c) Arbitration - Cases required to be designate	d for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. ( )
(d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for perso exposure to asbestos.	nal injury or property damage from ( )
(e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall commonly referred to as complex and that n the court. (See reverse side of this form for management cases.)	eed special or intense management by
(f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fa	all into any one of the other tracks. (X)
July 14, 2014 Richard E. Mille Date Attorney-at-la	
215-569-97010 215-569-9788 FAX Number	rmiller@jacobslawpc.com E-Mail Address

# Case 2:14-cv-04230 RED STATES PISTRICITE OVRT4/14 Page 4 of 34

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

Address of Plaintiff: 46 Brookwood Drive, Ivyland, PA	18974		
Address of Defendant: 75 Industrial Parkway			
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Montgon	nery County		
	(Use Reverse Side For Add	ditional Space)	
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corpor	rate party with any parent corporation and	any publicly held corporation owni	ng 10% or more of its stock?
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form	in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a))	Yes□	No X
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities	es?	Yes□	No X
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:			
Case Number: Judge		_ Date Terminated:	
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to	any of the following questions:		
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier	numbered suit pending or within one year	previously terminated action in this	court?
2. Door this case involve the case issue of fact as a		Yes□	
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow action in this court?	out of the same transaction as a prior suf	t pending or within one year previou	sty terminated
Does this case involve the validity or infringement of	f a natent already in suit or any earlier nur	Yes	No X
terminated action in this court?	a patent aneday in suit of any carner har	Yes	No X
			NO X
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, so	cial security appeal, or pro se civil rights of		
		Yes□	No X
CIVIL: (Place ✓ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)		D. Diversity of the state of th	
<ul><li>A. Federal Question Cases:</li><li>1. □ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract,</li></ul>	and All Other Contracts	<ul><li>B. Diversity Jurisdiction Case</li><li>1. □ Insurance Contract</li></ul>	
2. □ FELA		2. □ Airplane Personal I	
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury		3. □ Assault, Defamatio	
4. □ Antitrust		4. □ Marine Personal In	
5. □ Patent		<ol> <li>5. □ Motor Vehicle Pers</li> </ol>	
6. □ Labor-Management Relations		6. □ Other Personal Inju	157 550
7. □ Civil Rights		7. □ Products Liability	
8. □ Habeas Corpus		8. □ Products Liability -	— Asbestos
9. X Securities Act(s) Cases		9. □ All other Diversity	Cases
10. □ Social Security Review Cases		(Please specify)	
11. □ All other Federal Question Cases			
(Please specify)	Ÿ. =Y		
	ARBITRATION CERTIF	CICATION	
I, Richard E. Miller	(Check Appropriate Cate, counsel of record do he		
□ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2).			civil action case exceed the sum of
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;			
X Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	XX		
DATE: July 14, 2014	Richard E. Miller	46	451
NOTE: A trial d	Attorney-at-Law		orney I.D.#
NOTE: A trial de	e novo will be a trial by jury only if there	nas occii compiiance with F.K.C.P.	70.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not	related to any case now pending or wi	thin one year previously terminate	ed action in this court
except as noted above.			
DATE: July 14, 2014	Richard E. Miller	4645	1
	Attorney-at-Law	Atto	rney I.D.#

CIV. 609 (5/2012)

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Thomas Spina,	3
	:
Plaintiff,	:
	: No
v.	:
Refrigeration, Service and Engineer	ering, Inc.,:
Robert E. Hepp III, Cynthia A. Fit:	zgerald- :
Hepp and Kenneth C. Philo, II,	:
	3 ₽
Defendants	20-

## NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331, 1441(a) and 1446, Defendants hereby file this Notice of Removal of the above captioned action from the Court of Common Pleas for Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In support thereof, Defendants aver as follows:

- 1. This action was commenced on May 29, 2014, by the filing of a Writ of Summons in the Court of Common Pleas for Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, in the matter of *Thomas Spina v. Refrigeration Service and Engineering, et al.*, No. 2014-12128.
  - 2. The Complaint was filed on June 20, 2014.
- 3. The Complaint alleges violations of the Federal securities laws, 78 U.S.C. §§78j and 78t(a).
  - 4. This Court has original jurisdiction over the Federal securities laws claims.
- 5. This action is removable to the District Court of the United States pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331, 1441(a) and 1446.

- 6. Copies of the current docket, all process and pleadings that have been received by Defendants, and the names and addresses of the Parties and their counsel are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
- 7. This Notice is timely filed, it being filed within thirty (30) days of Defendants' receipt of a copy of the Complaint.

WHEREFORE, Notice of Removal is given that this action is removed from the Court of Common Pleas for Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Dated: July14, 2014

JACOBS LAW GROUP, PC

Neal A Jacobs, Esq. I.D. #41918 Richard E. Miller, Esq. I.D. #46451 2005 Market Street, Suite 1120 Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Phone: (215) 569-9701

Attorneys for Refrigeration, Service and

Engineering, Inc.

Obermayer Relmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP

Gary M. Samms Es I.D.

One Penn Cepter 19th Floor 1617 JFK Bryd

Philadelphia PA 19

Phone: (215) 665-3000

Attorneys for Robert E. Hepp, III and

Cynthia Fitzgerald-Hepp

Michael D. LiPuma, Esq. I.D. #74790

325 Chestnut Street Suite 1109

Philadelphia, PA 19106

Phone: (215) 922-2126

Attorney for Kenneth C. Philo, II

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this Notice of Removal was served on July 2014, upon the following via first class mail:

Henry I. Pass, Esq. Suite 700A 3 Bala Plaza East Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004-3492

Richard Miller

# EXHIBIT "A"

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVISION

Thomas Spina,

Civil Action No. 2014-12128

Plaintiff,

v.

Refrigeration, Service and Engineering, Inc., et al.,

Defendants.

# NOTICE OF REMOVAL

TO: THE PROTHONOTARY OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331, 1441(a) and 1446, on July 1/2 2014, the Defendants filed a Notice of Removal in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

A copy of the Notice of Removal is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBS LAW GROUP, PC

Dated: July 14, 2014

Neal A Jacobs, Esq. I.D. #41918 Richard E. Miller, Esq. I.D. #46451 2005 Market Street, Suite 1120 Philadelphia, Pa. 19103 Phone: (215) 569-9701 Attorneys for Defendant, Refrigeration,

Service and Engineering, Inc.

Obermayer Relamann Maxwell & Hippel

LLP

Cary M. Samus Bsq. I.D/# One Penn Center 19th Floor

1617 JFK Blvd.

Philadelphia, PA 19103 Phone: (215) 665-3000

Attorneys for Defendants, Robert E. Hepp,

III and Cynthia Fitzgerald-Hepp

Michael D. LiPuma, Esq. I.D. #74790

325 Chestnut Street

Suite 1109

Philadelphia, PA 19106

Phone: (215) 922-2126

Attorney for Defendant, Kenneth C. Philo, II

## ADDRESSES OF PARTIES AND COUNSEL OF RECORD IN STATE COURT ACTION

Plaintiff

THOMAS SPINA 46 Brookwood Drive Ivyland, PA 18974

Defendamts

REFRIGERATION, SERVICE AND ENGINEERING, INC. 75 Industrial Parkway Pottstown, PA 19464

ROBERT E. HEPP III 2207 Oak Terrace Lansdale, PA 19446

CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP 2207 Oak Terrace Lansdale, PA 19446

KENNETH C. PHILO, II 23 Flintlock Lane Phoenixville, PA 19460 Counsel

Henry I. Pass, Esq. I.D. #21437 Richard G. Tuttle, Esq. I.D. #28685 3 Bala Plaza East, Suite 700A Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 215-660-8001 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Neal A Jacobs, Esq. I.D. #41918 Richard E. Miller, Esq. I.D. #46451 2005 Market Street, Suite 1120 Philadelphia, Pa. 19103 Phone: (215) 569-9701 Attorneys for Defendant, Refrigerated Service & Engineering

Gary M. Samms, Esq. I.D. #58096

One Penn Center, 19th Floor 1617 JFK Blvd.

Phone: (215) 665-3000

Attorney for Defendats, Robert E. Hepp, III and Cynthia Fitzgerald-

Hepp

Michael D. LiPuma, Esq. I.D.#74790 325 Chestnut Street Suite 1109

Philadelphia, PA 19106 Phone: (215) 922-2126 Attorney for Defendant, Kenneth C. Philo, II

## Back to Search > Case #2014-12128

## □ Case Details

Case Number	2014-12128			
Commencement Date	5/29/2014			
Case Type	Summons Civil Action			
PFA Number				
Caption Plaintiff	SPINA, THOMAS			
Caption Defendant	REFRIGERATION SERVICE AND ENGINEERING INC			
Lis Pendens Indicator	No			
Status	2 - OPEN			
Judge	BRANCA			
Remarks				
Sealed	No			
Interpreter Needed	8			

Docket Date Range: Docket Entries

## □ Plaintiffs

Name	Address	Country	Counsel	Notify	Sequence
SPINA, THOMAS	46 BROOK WOOD DRIVE	UNITED STATES	PASS, HENRY I	Yes	1
***	IVYLAND, PA 18974 UNITED STATES				

## □ Defendants

Name	Address	Country	Counsel	Notify	Sequence
REFRIGERATION SERVICE AND ENGINEERING INC	75 INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY POTTSTOWN, PA 19464 UNITED STATES	UNITED STATES	MILLER, RICHARD E JACOBS, NEAL A	Yes	1
FITZGERALD-HEPP, CYNTHIA	2207 OAK TERRACE LANSDALE, PA 19446 UNITED STATES	UNITED STATES	BANNERMAN, JC MICHAEL	Yes	2
hepp, robert e III	2207 OAK TERRACE LANSDALE, PA 19446 UNITED STATES	UNITED STATES	BANNERMAN, JC MICHAEL	Yes	3
PHILO, KENNETH	23 FLINTLOCK LANE PHOENIXVILLE, PA 19460 UNITED STATES	UNITED STATES	LIPUMA, MICHAEL D	Yes	4

## **⊟** Garnishees

## **⊟ Other Party Types**

## □ Docket Entries

Seq.	Filing Date	Docket Type	Docket Text	Sealed	Filing ID
0	E 5/29/2014	Summons Civil Action	3	No	9810735
1	E 5/30/2014	Entry of Appearance	OF GARY M. SAMMS FOR ROBERT E. HEPP, III AND CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP	No	9815010
2	E 5/30/2014	Affidavit/Certificate of Service of	ENTRY OF APPEARANCE ON 05/30/2014 TO COUNSEL OF RECORD	No	9815013
3	E 5/30/2014	Praec to Enter Rule Upon	THOMAS SPINA TO FILE A COMPLAINT	No	9816675
4	E 6/11/2014	Acceptance of Service By	MICHAEL L. LIPUMA AS ATTORNEY FOR DEF KENNETH C PHILO II ON 06/10/2014	No	9832144
5	E 6/11/2014	Entry of Appearance	OF RICHARD MILLER/NEAL JACOBS FOR REFRIGERATION SERVICE AND ENGINEERING, INC.	No	9832987
6	E 6/19/2014	Complaint In		No	9843725

7	E	6/19/2014	Affidavit/Certificate of Service of	PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT ON 06/19/2014 TO ALL DEFENDANTS	No	9843726
8	T	6/23/2014	(Internal Use Only) Served	CYNTHIA A FITZGERALD-HEPP ON 6-18-14	No	9845493
9	T	6/23/2014	(Internal Use Only) Served	ROBERT E HEPP III ON 6-18-14	No	9845534
10	Τ	6/23/2014	(Internal Use Only) Served	CYNTHIA A FITZGERALD-HEPP ON 6-18-14	No	9846625
11	Т	6/23/2014	(Internal Use Only) Served	ROBERT E HEPP III ON 6-18-14	No	9846626
12	Τ	6/23/2014	Entry of Appearance	OF MICHAEL LIPUMA FOR KENNETH C PHILO II	No	9846805

- ∃Judgments
- **⊟ Parcel Numbers**
- □ Archive Locations
- □ Linked Cases

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# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS SPINA

VS.

REFRIGERATION SERVICE AND ENGINEERING INC

NO. 2014-12128

## PRAECIPE FOR SUMMONS

$T_{\Omega}$	the	Prot	hon	otar	,,
10	uic	FIOU	11011	Otal	٧.

Issue Summons in Civil Action in the above case.

		ORIGINAL SIGNATURE RETAINED BY THE FILING PARTY
		Signature
		HENRY I. PASS
		Filing Party
		21437
Date	05/29/2014	ID Number
		LAW OFFICES OF HENRY IAN PASS
		Firm Name
		3 BALA PLAZA EAST, SUITE 700A
		Address
		BALA CYNWYD PA 19004
		610 660-8001
		Phone
		*****
TO: _ D	efendant(s)	
	You are notified that the Plaint	iff(s) has / have commenced an action against you.

THE COMMON THE STATE OF THE STA

Prothonotary, Montgomery County

Date: 05/29/2014

By: k kester

Clerk / Deputy

Addresses must be included for all parties.

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS SPINA

vs.

REFRIGERATION SERVICE AND ENGINEERING INC

NO. 2014-12128

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

State Rule 205.5 requires this form be attached to any document <u>commencing an action</u> in the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. The information provided herein is used solely as an aid in tracking cases in the court system. This form does not supplement or replace the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law or rules of court.

Name of Plaintiff/Appellant's Attorney: HENRY I PASS, Esq., ID: 21437	7
Self-Represented (Pro Se) Litigani	t
Class Action Suit Yes X No	
MDJ Appeal Yes X No	Money Damages Requested
Commencement of Action:	Amount in Controversy:
Writ of Summons	
*	
Case Type and Code	
Tort:	
Intentional	
Others	

# Case# 2014-12128-0 Received at Montgomery County Prothonotary on 05/29/2014 4:30 PM, Ree = \$258.00

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS SPINA, in his individual capacity and derivatively, 46 Brookwood Drive Ivyland, PA 18974

Plaintiff,

٧.

REFRIGERATION, SERVICE AND ENGINEERING, INC.
75 Industrial Parkway
Pottstown, PA 19464
and
ROBERT E. HEPP III

2207 Oak Terrace Lansdale, PA 19446 and CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP 2207 Oak Terrace

Lansdale, PA 19446

and

KENNETH C. PHILO, II 23 Flintlock Lane

Phoenixville, PA 19460

Defendants.

Civil	Action	No	_

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS SPINA, in his individual capacity and derivatively, 46 Brookwood Drive Ivyland, PA 18974

Plaintiff,

V.

REFRIGERATION, SERVICE AND ENGINEERING, INC.

75 Industrial Parkway

Pottstown, PA 19464

and

ROBERT E. HEPP III

2207 Oak Terrace

Lansdale, PA 19446

and

CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP

2207 Oak Terrace

Lansdale, PA 19446

and

KENNETH C. PHILO, II

23 Flintlock Lane

Phoenixville, PA 19460

Defendants.

Civil Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAECIPE FOR SUMMONS

### Civil Action

To the Prothonotary:

Kindly issue a Writ of Summons — Civil Action in the above case, as described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Writ of Summons shall be forwarded to

X /Attorney

Sheriff

Henry an Pass, Esq., I.D. No. 21437 LAW OFFICES OF HENRY IAN PASS

3 Bala Plaza East, Suite 700A Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Telephone No.: (610) 660-8001

Fax No.: (610) 660-8004 E-mail: hip@hipesq.com

Attorney for Plaintiff, Thomas Spina

DATED: May 29, 2014

## WRIT

To: REFRIGERATION, SERVICE AND ENGINEERING, INC.

75 Industrial Parkway Pottstown, PA 19464

and

ROBERT E. HEPP III 2207 Oak Terrace

Lansdale, PA 19446

and

CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP

2207 Oak Terrace

Lansdale, PA 19446

and

KENNETH C. PHILO, II

23 Flintlock Lane

Phoenixville, PA 19460

You are notified that the Plaintiff has commenced an action against you.

SEAL OF THE COURT	MARK LEVY Prothonotary, Montgomery County
	Paris
Date:	By: Clerk/Deputy

## EXHIBIT "A"

## TO PRAECIPE TO ISSUE WRIT OF SUMMONS

This is an action for breaches of statutory and common law duties arising out of the merger of Defendant Refrigeration, Service and Engineering, Inc. ("RSE") into Industrial Refrigeration & Engineering, Inc., the merger's aftermath and the oppressive campaign by Defendants to unlawfully sell the assets of Defendant RSE to Stellar Refrigeration Services, Inc. ("Stellar").

Plaintiff's causes of action include, without limitation, the following: Violation of Federal and state securities laws; conversion; breach of fiduciary duty, interested director transactions, interested shareholder transactions, fraud, negligence, breach of duty of loyalty, breach of contract, anticipatory repudiation of contract, tortious interference, minority shareholder oppression, corporate waste, *ultra vires* undertakings, diversion of corporate opportunity, self-dealing, waste, unjust enrichment, intentional misrepresentation, negligent misrepresentation, conflicts of interest, conspiracy to commit and aiding and abetting the commission of the foregoing.

Plaintiff's remedies being sought include, without limitation, temporary and permanent injunctive relief, rescission, compensatory damages, punitive damages, counsel fees, pre- and post-judgment interest, an accounting, imposition of a constructive trust, disgorgement and/or such other legal and equitable remedies asserted in Plaintiff's Complaint. Such remedies may also include, without limitation, court supervised receivership or dissolution under the Business Corporation Law of 1988, as amended.

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS SPINA

VS.

REFRIGERATION SERVICE AND ENGINEERING INC

NO. 2014-12128

# PRAECIPE FOR APPEARANCE

TO THE PROTHONOTARY:				
Please enter my appearance for				
REFRIGERATION SERVICE AND ENGII	NEERING, INC.			
n the above case.				
Date: 06/11/2014	ORIGINAL SIGNATURE RETAINED BY THE FILING PARTY Signature			
26	RICHARD MILLER/NEAL JACOBS			
	Filing Party 46451/41918			
	ID Number			
	JACOBS LAW GROUP			
	Firm Name			
	2005 MARKET STREET SUITE 1120			
	Address			
	PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103			
	2155699701			

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on June 11, 2014, I filed the foregoing Entry of Appearance electronically and it is now available for viewing and downloading from the Court's Electronic Case Filing System, which is service on all registered users in this action, including the following:

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Richard Miller

## IN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

THOMAS SPINA, in his individual capacity and derivatively,

Plaintiff,

V.

REFRIGERATION, SERVICE AND ENGINEERING, INC., ROBERT E. HEPP III, CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP and KENNETH C. PHILO, II

Defendants.

TRIAL DIVISION

: No. 2014-12128

## NOTICE TO DEFEND

You have been sued in Court. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in the following pages, you must take action within twenty (20) days after this Complaint and Notice are served, by entering a written appearance personally or by an attorney and filing in writing with the Court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you by the Court without further notice for any money claimed in the Complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the Plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER, OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

Lawyer Referral Service 100 West Airy Street Norristown, PA 19401 (610) 279-9660 Henry I. Pass, Esq., PA Atty. I.D. #21437 Richard G. Tuttle, Esq., PA Atty. I.D. #28685 LAW OFFICES OF HENRY IAN PASS 3 Bala Plaza East, Suite 700A Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 (610) 660-8001 (Phone) (610) 660-8004 (Fax) hip@hipesq.com (E-mail)

Attorney for Plaintiff, Thomas Spina

THOMAS SPINA, in his individual capacity

and derivatively, 46 Brookwood Drive Ivyland, PA 18974

Plaintiff,

٧.

REFRIGERATION, SERVICE AND ENGINEERING, INC.

75 Industrial Parkway Pottstown, PA 19464

and

ROBERT E. HEPP III

2207 Oak Terrace

Lansdale, PA 19446

and

CYNTHIA A. FITZGERALD-HEPP

2207 Oak Terrace

Lansdale, PA 19446

ANd

KENNETH C. PHILO, II

23 Flintlock Lane

Phoenixville, PA 19460

Defendants.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS TRIAL DIVISION

No. 2014-12128

## COMPLAINT

## INTRODUCTION

This is an action for breaches of statutory and common law duties arising out of the merger of Defendant Refrigeration, Service and Engineering, Inc. into Industrial Refrigeration & Engineering, Inc., the merger's aftermath and the oppressive campaign by Defendants to unlawfully sell the assets of Defendant RSE to Stellar Refrigeration Services, Inc.

## **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff Thomas Spina is an adult citizen and resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, residing at 46 Brookwood Drive, Ivyland, PA 18974.
- 2. Defendant Refrigeration, Service and Engineering, Inc. ("RSE") is a Pennsylvania corporation with its principal office and place of business at 75 Industrial Parkway, Pottstown, Pennsylvania 19464.
- 3. Defendant Robert E. Hepp, III ("Robert Hepp"), is an adult citizen and resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, residing at 2207 Oak Terrace, Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446.
- 4. Defendant Cynthia A. Fitzgerald-Hepp ("Cynthia Hepp") is an adult citizen and resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, residing at 2207 Oak Terrace, Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446.
- Defendant Kenneth C. Philo, II ("Philo") is an adult citizen and resident of the
   Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, residing at 23 Flintlock Lane, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania
   19460.
- 6. Defendants Robert Hepp, Cynthia Hepp and RSE are referred to from time to time hereafter, collectively, as the "Hepp Defendants."
- 7. Defendants Robert Hepp, Cynthia Hepp and Philo are referred to from time to time hereafter, collectively, as the "Individual Defendants."
  - 8. Plaintiff initiated this action by Writ of Summons filed on May 29, 2014.

## ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

9. Defendant RSE is the surviving company following a merger between RSE and Industrial Refrigeration and Engineering, Inc. ("IRE") (hereafter, the "Merger"). IRE was a

Pennsylvania corporation owned 33-1/3% by Plaintiff immediately before the Merger. The Merger of IRE into RSE was effective on December 29, 2011.

- Immediately before the Merger, Defendants Robert Hepp and Philo were shareholders of RSE.
- 11. During the period leading up to December, 2011, RSE (as it existed before the Merger) and IRE were managed and operated as a single enterprise under the direction of Defendant Robert Hepp. Plaintiff's ownership in that combined enterprise was a one-third stake in IRE, notwithstanding that the company with which Plaintiff was principally involved, IRE, had contributed most of the expertise and customer relationships on which the combined enterprise depended.
  - 12. Defendant Robert Hepp was the controlling shareholder of RSE before the Merger.
- 13. Before the Merger, RSE billed IRE for overhead, rent and administrative services putatively provided by RSE to IRE.
- 14. Pursuant to the plan of merger for the Merger, Defendants Robert Hepp and Cynthia Hepp decided that RSE should be the surviving company. The Hepp Defendants insisted to Plaintiff that he not only exchange his shares in IRE, but also purchase shares of RSE, as a condition of proceeding with the Merger.
- 15. There was never a meeting of shareholders of IRE to discuss a merger with RSE, and never a plan of merger timely submitted to Plaintiff or other shareholders for review. The Hepp Defendants intentionally concealed relevant facts about the deal to mislead Plaintiff into accepting it.
- 16. The Hepp Defendants represented to Plaintiff that the contemplated Merger between RSE and IRE was necessary to eliminate redundancies and create economies of scale.

- 17. The Hepp Defendants demanded that Plaintiff tender not only his shares in IRE, but also the sum of \$294,000, to obtain a 30% interest in RSE as the surviving company.
- 18. The Hepp Defendants, as sellers and buyers of securities, intentionally caused Plaintiff to believe, incorrectly, that a 30% interest in RSE was worth (i) Plaintiff's 33% stake in IRE (to be tendered for shares in RSE), plus (ii) \$294,000.
- 19. Defendant RSE's issuance of shares of RSE to Plaintiff in exchange for Plaintiff's shares in IRE, all in consummation of the Merger, constituted a sale and purchase of securities within the meaning of state and federal securities laws.
- 20. The Hepp Defendants, by misstatement and omission, misrepresented the value of RSE by failing to disclose that, before the merger, RSE had grossly overbilled IRE for overhead, rent, and administration, thereby inflating RSE's earnings and depressing IRE's earnings. In so doing, the Hepp Defendants made RSE appear more valuable, and IRE less valuable, than each actually was. Plaintiff paid far more for his interest in RSE than he would have if the relative values of the two companies were accurately presented by Defendants.
- 21. Joseph Koury, Esquire, counsel for RSE, prepared documents to memorialize Plaintiff's agreement to assume \$193,000 of indebtedness to Defendant Robert Hepp, and \$96,600 of indebtedness to Defendant Cynthia Hepp, as consideration for said Defendants' transfers to Plaintiff of shares in RSE in connection with the Merger. Other documents prepared by Mr. Koury memorialized Plaintiff's pledge of shares in RSE to secure such indebtedness.
  - 22. Plaintiff reasonably trusted in Mr. Koury's good faith and fairness.
- 23. In late 2011, during the period leading up to the Merger, Plaintiff was repeatedly reassured by Defendant Robert Hepp that Plaintiff would receive a 30% share in the merged company in exchange for his shares in IRE.

- 24. At the last minute, the Hepp Defendants insisted that the deal already negotiated was too generous to Plaintiff.
- 25. Shortly before Plaintiff was instructed to sign the Merger documents, the Hepp Defendants presented Plaintiff with a document encaptioned "Business valuations," purportedly prepared by R. Victor Haas Jr. of Haas Business Valuation Services, Inc. (the "Business Valuations"). A true and correct copy of the Business Valuations is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 26. The Business Valuations were prepared on the basis of data provided by the Hepp Defendants, with no input from Plaintiff. As the Hepp Defendants knew and intended, the data that they provided to Mr. Haas unfairly skewed the relative values of the two companies, making RSE appear to be more valuable than, in fact, it was, and making IRE appear to be less valuable than, in fact, it was.
- 27. The Business Valuations fraudulently represented to Plaintiff that RSE was substantially more valuable than IRE, thus purporting to justify the Hepp Defendants' demand that Plaintiff pay additional funds to Robert Hepp and Cynthia Hepp in connection with the Merger.
- 28. The Hepp Defendants knew that the Business Valuations were false, and intended that Plaintiff be misled by them.
- 29. Additionally the Hepp Defendants caused a member of RSE's firm of certified public accountants to advise Plaintiff that he would need to pay more for his shares in the merged company for the deal to be fair to the Hepp Defendants.
- 30. In fact, as of the end of 2011, RSE was substantially less valuable than IRE, as conclusively evidenced by the fact that the functions performed by IRE before the Merger, as provided after the Merger, contributed substantially more to the merged company's revenues and

profits during 2012 and 2013 than did the assets formerly owned and operated by RSE, pre-Merger.

- 31. Plaintiff was afforded only a few minutes to review the Business Valuations, the Stock Purchase and Sale Agreements, the Stock Pledge and Security Agreements (the "Pledge Agreements," copies of which are attached hereto, collectively, as Exhibit B), and the Promissory Notes (the "Notes") that were presented to him by Mr. Koury and the Hepp Defendants. Mr. Koury and the Hepp Defendants instructed Plaintiff that he would have to sign the documents immediately to make the Merger effective by year-end 2011.
- 32. As the Hepp Defendants were aware, Plaintiff was (and is) generally unsophisticated in financial issues implicated by business combinations and related corporate governance, and reasonably and necessarily relied upon said Defendants' representations concerning the benefits and advantages that Plaintiff would purportedly enjoy as a result of the Merger.
- 33. Plaintiff's shares of stock in IRE, and the shares of RSE stock that he purchased, are securities within the meaning of state and federal securities laws.
- 34. Plaintiff trusted in Mr. Koury's integrity and in the integrity of RSE's certified public accountants and believed that each was looking out for Plaintiff's interests. Thus, when each of them, as agents of the Hepp Defendants, represented to Plaintiff that the documents reflecting the transfer of shares and payment therefor were fair to all parties, Plaintiff reasonably believed and credited that representation.
- 35. To induce Plaintiff to enter into an agreement to proceed with the Merger, and to induce Plaintiff to tender his shares in IRE in exchange for shares of RSE to effectuate the Merger, Defendants made false representations of material fact to Plaintiff, including the following:

- a. That the merger of RSE and IRE would result in economies of scale sufficient to justify the extra money Plaintiff would be required to invest in the merged company.
- b. That the combination of RSE and IRE would result in the elimination of redundancies sufficient to justify the extra money Plaintiff would be required to invest in the merged company.
  - c. That RSE was substantially more valuable than IRE.
  - d. That the merger would be a good deal for all shareholders of IRE.
- 36. To induce Plaintiff to enter into an agreement to proceed with the Merger, and to induce Plaintiff to tender his shares in IRE in exchange for shares of RSE to effectuate the Merger, Defendants omitted to disclose to Plaintiff various material facts about RSE (the "Omissions"), including the following:
- a. The extent to which, and the true reasons for which, RSE had been overbilling IRE for overhead, rent, and administration, thereby falsely inflating RSE's earnings and depressing IRE's earnings.
  - b. That RSE had been considering declaring bankruptcy.
- 37. As a result of the Merger, Plaintiff became and remains the owner of thirty percent (30%) of the issued and outstanding common voting shares of RSE.
- 38. The value of RSE and IRE, operated as a single concern immediately before the Merger, was \$2.2 million.
  - 39. The value of RSE immediately after the Merger was \$2.2 million.
- 40. Between the end of December, 2011, when the Merger became effective, and May 29, 2014 (the date on which this action was initiated by Writ of Summons), RSE experienced strong sales growth and profitability. As of May 29, 2014, RSE was worth substantially more than \$2.2 million.

- 41. Virtually all of that growth in sales and profitability was driven by RSE's exploitation of assets that were formerly owned by IRE.
- 42. At some point on or before May 4, 2014, the Hepp Defendants, without consulting Plaintiff or any other shareholder of RSE, reached an agreement in principle with Stellar Refrigeration Services, Inc., of Jacksonville, Florida ("Stellar"), to sell all of RSE's assets, exclusive of cash and accounts receivable, to Stellar for \$475,000, payable over three years. Said agreement in principle has since been reduced to writing. A copy of the contract between RSE and Stellar for the sale of assets (the "Sale of Assets Agreement") is attached hereto as Exhibit C.
- 43. By means of a putative Notice of Special Meeting of Shareholders dated May 8, 2014 (the "Putative Notice"), Defendants advised Plaintiff that Defendants would hold a meeting of shareholders of RSE on May 19, 2014.
- 44. The Putative Notice was purportedly approved by the board of directors of RSE, and purported to call a shareholders' meeting to consider approval of the sale of assets to Stellar.
- 45. In violation of Pennsylvania law, no shareholder vote was ever conducted to elect the "directors" who purported to approve the Putative Notice.
  - 46. The Putative Notice was, and remains, a nullity, with no legal force or effect.
- 47. Pursuant to 15 Pa.C.S. § 1574, Plaintiff notified RSE and the other Defendants that he elected to dissent from any decision to sell assets of RSE, pursuant to the Sale of Assets Agreement or otherwise. A copy of said notice is attached hereto as Exhibit D.
- 48. At the time of the shareholders' purported approval of the sale of substantially all of the assets of RSE (other than cash or receivables) for \$475,000 pursuant to the Sale of Assets Agreement, RSE was a thriving business with gross annual revenues of more than nine million dollars, accounts receivable of more than two million dollars, and substantial reserves of cash.

- 49. The present fair market value of RSE as a going concern and excluding cash and accounts receivable is, on information and belief, well in excess of two million two hundred thousand dollars (\$2,200,000).
- 50. On information and belief, Stellar was prepared to pay substantially more than \$475,000 to RSE for substantially all of its assets.
- 51. In violation of their duties as majority shareholders in a close corporation, the Individual Defendants diverted consideration that Stellar was willing to pay for RSE's assets. On information and belief, the Individual Defendants negotiated, instead, for the payment of large guaranteed sums to the Individual Defendants as part of employment or other agreements with Stellar.
- 52. On information and belief, Stellar has agreed to pay far more in salary, benefits and other consideration to one or more of the Individual Defendants than the fair market value of the services that they will render to Stellar. Stellar agreed to that arrangement because the Individual Defendants conditioned their approval, as shareholders of RSE, of the Sale of Assets Agreement upon Stellar's consent to divert consideration to the employment or other contracts.
- 53. Stellar was not concerned with the apportionment of the consideration among assets and employee services, so long as it obtained RSE's going concern value in exchange for the total consideration to be tendered by Stellar.
- 54. By a vote of shareholders held on May 22, 2014 (adjourned from May 19, 2014), shareholders Robert Hepp, Cynthia Hepp, and Kenneth Philo (i.e., each of the Individual Defendants) voted to approve the Sale of Assets to Stellar. Plaintiff voted all of his shares against the Sale of Assets.

- 55. Prior to said vote, Plaintiff demanded that each Individual Defendant disclose the terms of his or her contemplated employment or other agreements with Stellar. All refused, in violation of their fiduciary duties to Plaintiff.
- 56. Prior to said vote, Plaintiff had offered to pay \$500,000 for the same assets to be purchased by Stellar for \$475,000. Moreover, Plaintiff offered to make such purchase in cash rather than in installments as proposed by Stellar. Said offer was rejected by RSE, at the instance and insistence of the Individual Defendants. Said Defendants' rejection of Plaintiff's offer conclusively demonstrated that said Defendants' real motivation to approve the deal with Stellar was and is to enjoy the benefits of artificially padded employment agreements and other consideration, and not to act in the best interests of RSE and its shareholders.
- 57. The Individual Defendants' diversion and application of Stellar's funds to their respective employment agreements, rather than causing said funds to be paid by Stellar for the good will and hard assets of RSE, constituted a usurpation by said Defendants of corporate opportunities, misuse and diversion of corporate assets, and conversion.
- 58. Throughout the period between the Merger and negotiation of the Sale of Assets Agreement, Defendants Robert Hepp and Cynthia Hepp, without the knowledge or approval of any other shareholder of RSE, used substantial cash and other assets of RSE to pay personal expenses, such as home repair and remodeling. Said use of RSE's property wasted corporate assets, was *ultra vires*, and violated Pennsylvania law. Additionally, to the extent, if at all, that said Defendants incorporated into such repair and remodeling any parts, supplies or materials purchased through the use of RSE's Pennsylvania sales tax exemption, said Defendants violated Pennsylvania's tax laws.

- 59. Plaintiff has made appropriate demands upon the Board of Directors to insist upon disgorgement, restitution, reimbursement of corporate funds and property of RSE by Defendants Robert Hepp, Cynthia Hepp, and Philo, or is excused from such demands as a result of futility.
- 60. Defendants have engaged in fraud and fundamental unfairness within the meaning of 15 Pa.C.S. § 1105.
- 61. On information and belief, the fraudulent scheme orchestrated and perpetrated by all of the Defendants is far more pervasive, sinister and damaging than discovered thus far by Plaintiff as alleged in this Complaint.
- 62. As a result of the conduct of Defendants, Plaintiff has suffered, and will continue to suffer, irreparable injury, and money damages, alone, will be inadequate. Plaintiff has no complete and adequate remedy at law.
- 63. Plaintiff is entitled to a full and complete accounting from all Defendants disclosing, inter alia, the following:
  - a. all amounts owing to Plaintiff, either lost, embezzled or converted by any of the
     Defendants (the "Ill-Gotten Gains");
  - b. the identity of the source of all Ill-Gotten Gains;
  - c. the identity of the payor of any Ill-Gotten Gains;
  - d. the identity of the payee of any Ill-Gotten Gains;
  - e. the disposition of any Ill-Gotten Gains;
  - f. the current location (i.e., depository, custodian, possessor) of any Ill-Gotten
     Gains; and
  - g. all documents relating to or referring to the Ill-Gotten Gains.
  - 64. Plaintiff is entitled to an accounting from each Defendant and from all Defendants.

- 65. Plaintiff is entitled to have a constructive trust imposed against all of the known and presently unknown Ill-Gotten Gains fraudulently or otherwise unlawfully obtained, embezzled and/or converted by any of the Defendants including, without limitation, all assets, both tangible and intangible, to which such known or presently unknown Ill-Gotten Gains have been converted or to which they can be directly or indirectly traced.
- 66. The conditions for appointment of a custodian or receiver under 15 Pa.C.S. § 1767 have been satisfied.

## CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF THE MERGER

## COUNT I

## Violation of 78 U.S.C. § 78j and S.E.C. Rule 10b-5

- 67. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations in paragraphs 1 through 66.
- 68. Each of the Hepp Defendants carried out a plan, scheme and course of conduct which was intended to and did deceive the Plaintiff, and caused Plaintiff to purchase shares in RSE and to execute the Notes at distorted prices and otherwise to suffer damages. In furtherance of this unlawful scheme, plan and course of conduct, each Hepp Defendant took the actions set forth herein.
- 69. The Hepp Defendants (i) employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact and/or omitted to state material facts necessary to make the statements made not misleading; and (iii) engaged in acts, practices, and a course of business which operated as a fraud and deceit upon the Plaintiff, in an effort to enrich themselves, all in violation of Section 10(b) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78a, et seq., and S.E.C. Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder. All of the Hepp Defendants are sued as primary participants in the wrongful and illegal conduct and scheme charged herein.